The State of New Hampshire



Department of Environmental Services



Michael P. Nolin Commissioner

Ms. Judy Burrows Winsunvale Shores Home Owners Association 12 Pippen Lane Pittsfield, NH 03263 July 26, 2005 **Letter of Deficiency** DSP#05-023

RE: Whites Pond Dam #195.07, Pittsfield

Dear Ms. Burrows:

The Department of Environmental Services, Dam Bureau (DES) consistently strives to enhance the safety of dams in New Hampshire through its dam safety program. One of the many instruments that play a part in reaching this goal is our inspection program. DES is forwarding this correspondence to you to advise you that in accordance with RSA 482:12 and Env-Wr 502.02, an inspection of the subject dam was conducted on May 13, 2005. During this visual inspection and/or file review, the following deficiencies were observed:

- 1. The granite blocks appear to be stable and no movement was observed after comparing photographs from previous inspections. However, the joints between the blocks located upstream of the spillway should be mortared creating a more water tight structure;
- 2. There is tree and brush growth within 15 feet of the downstream culvert headwalls;
- 3. The Emergency Action Plan (EAP) has not been updated or tested since 2002;
- 4. The operation and maintenance plan (O&M) should be reviewed and updated if necessary;
- 5. The lack of spillway discharge capacity has not been addressed since the last communication with the association.

DES believes that the above deficiencies can be corrected by performing the following items by the indicated schedule:

October 1, 2005:

- 1. Conduct a drawdown and seal the joints in the granite block walls located upstream of the spillway;
- 2. Remove the tree and brush growth from the downstream embankment and for a distance of 15 feet from the culvert headwalls;
- 3. Test and update the EAP. The following items were outlined by the DES EAP Coordinator, Bethann McCarthy;
 - a. Update the notification flowchart as necessary.
 - b. Ascertain that both Pittsfield Fire and Police Departments are dispatched by the Merrimack County Dispatch Center. If another agency dispatches for either Department, add that agency to the Notification Flowchart and to Appendix F as a holder of the plan.

DES Web site: www.des.nh.gov

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- c. Change the DES contact numbers as follows: cell 419-9206, pager 639-6982.
- d. When updating the EAP, please note that the Office of Emergency Management is now requesting that they receive only a copy of the notification flowchart. This information should be added to Appendix F;
- 4. Review and update if necessary the O&M plan; and
- 5. Update DES regarding the progress of working with DOT to address the lack of spillway discharge capacity.

DES is requesting that you complete and submit the attached "Intent to Complete Repairs" form, within 30 days of receipt of this letter, that will provide for correction of the identified deficiencies by the date(s) indicated above. Please call or write to our office if the repairs are completed ahead of the aforementioned schedule so that DES may schedule a follow-up inspection. Unless notified otherwise, DES will conduct the follow-up inspection on or after the date(s) indicated above. If you believe changes to the items of work or dates are necessary, please make the changes directly on the form and provide a brief explanation. We have enclosed a self addressed stamped envelope for you to return this form.

Our intent in sending you this correspondence is to make you aware of items that DES believes warrant your attention to insure the continued safe operation of your dam. It is our hope that, through the submittal of the attached form and a commitment to keeping a well-maintained dam, you will voluntarily comply with the requested items of work. If we do not receive the intent form or a similarly adequate written reply, we will assume that you are in agreement with our findings and recommendations and DES will carry out follow-up inspections accordingly.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this Letter of Deficiency or would like to be present at future inspections, please contact me at 271-3406, or write to the Water Division at the address listed on the bottom of the previous page.

Sincerely,

Attachments Copy of O&M plan currently on file, Guideline for an O&M plan, DB8, DB13

cc: Bethann M. McCarthy, P.E., EAP Coordinator

Gretchen R. Hamel, Legal Unit Administrator

Town of Pittsfield

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